

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line or a passage cell line thereof, containing an immortalizing gene interposed between a pair of site-specific recombination sequences and a suicide gene in the outside of the pair of site-specific recombination sequences, wherein the suicide gene can exhibit its function after excision of the pair of site-specific recombination sequences, wherein the liver cell line or a passage cell line thereof does not contain a promoter derived from virus.

2. (Currently amended) The reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line or the passage cell line thereof of Claim 1, wherein the liver cell line or the passage cell line thereof comprises human liver cells.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line or the passage cell line thereof of Claim 1, wherein said reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line is CYNK-1.

5. (Currently Amended) A mammalian liver cell obtained ~~obtainable~~ by excising the immortalizing gene from a reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line or a passage cell line thereof of Claim 1, wherein a reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line or a passage cell line thereof contains an immortalizing gene interposed between a pair of site-specific recombination sequences and a suicide gene in the outside of the pair of site-specific recombination sequences, wherein the suicide gene can exhibit its function after excision of the pair of site-specific recombination sequences, wherein the liver cell line or a passage cell line thereof does not contain a promoter derived from virus.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously presented) A cell preparation, comprising as an active ingredient, a reversibly immortalized mammalian liver cell line or a passage cell line thereof of Claim 1.

8-9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously presented) A cell preparation, comprising as an active ingredient, a mammalian liver cell of Claim 5.